

***Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar** (*Cheruthuruthi*): Before I formally withdraw the motion, I wish only to say that it is not for a big dispensary of the type that the Hon'ble Member for Medicine said that I wanted to move by this motion. I do not want a paid doctor there. Some arrangement for at least 3—4 patients may be made; a house may be rented for the purpose. With an additional expenditure of not more than Rs. 500, I think, it would be possible to provide for this. There is already a doctor.

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): Should there not be somebody to look after the doctor?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (*Cheruthuruthi*): That also is necessary. But he is not a paid doctor.

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): What about diet?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (*Cheruthuruthi*): Diet also should be given. After all the cost per head comes to only 0—1—4. That is a very small item.

Mr. K. S. Panicker (*Ezhuvas-Mukundapuram*): Who is the present doctor at Pattikkad?

Chairman: That does not arise here.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Cut Motion No. 8.

Sanatorium for the Tuberculosis patients of the State.

Chairman: The motion of Mr. Warriar consists of 2 parts namely (1) to start a hospital and (2) to have it at Ramavarmapuram. I would advise the member to press upon the Government the necessity of a Tuberculosis Hospital in this State.

Mr. M. K. Devassy (*Adur*): I would invite the attention of the chair to cut motion No. 6, to request the Government to start a sanatorium for the Tuberculosis patients of the State at a suitable place.

Chairman: Cut motion No. 6 is to request the Government to start a sanatorium for the Tuberculosis patients of the State at a suitable place. We shall discuss these two motions together, and treat Motion No. 6 as the substantial motion.

***Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar** (*Cheruthuruthi*): I move to reduce the allotment of Rs. 34,466 for hospitals, Dental Surgeons and Assistant Surgeons by Re. 1. It is to request the Government to start a Tuberculosis hospital in Ramavarmapuram. In discussing this motion I shall, Sir, bear in mind the suggestions made by

* Speech not corrected by the hon'ble member.

you. Sir, this fell disease is becoming rampant all over the State. I do not think I need at this stage press upon the Government the necessity for a separate hospital for the treatment of the Tuberculosis patients. That it is a dangerous disease and that necessary precautions should be taken to check the spread of the disease is admitted by all. I have been watching the growth or the spread of the disease all over the State, and one of the things that I used to ask the Doctors in various parts of the State whenever I met them was, as to the spread of the disease there. I am very sorry to say that I find in almost all the places, there are cases of Tuberculosis in the State and everyone of those doctors is of opinion that it is on the increase. According to some of the leading doctors about 5 to 10 per cent of the population is affected by Tuberculosis. It is therefore high time that the Government should make some provision for the treatment of these people. The hospitals in the State do not admit these poor people. The people—some rich people who can afford—are trying to find accommodation in the Sanatorium at Coimbatore and other places and with great difficulty they get admission. Very few get admission in those hospitals. Very rich persons who can afford to go and live in separate houses and get treatment at their cost alone are able to do it. But as a class these poor people are not able to get any relief and they go about and spit all over the place which ultimately spreads out, dries up and mixes with the dust and the disease is spread all over the State. I therefore say that it is the duty of the Government—a responsible Government—to make some provision to check the spread of this disease. No doubt, Sanatoriums are the best means by which we can make arrangements for the treatment of these people. I would think it would be a high order. It would not be possible to find out a place outside and then send all the people over there and make arrangements for their treatment. I therefore would suggest or request the Government to consider the possibility of establishing a hospital in the State itself where arrangements can be made for the treatment of patients particularly poor patients who are refused admissions in the hospitals.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon (*Cranganur*): Why is it to be at Ramavarmapuram?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (*Cheruthuruthi*): The Hon'ble Member for Medicine was telling us that there would be very little money for institutions like this or for any further expansion of the department. Therefore I think it will not be out of place if I suggest some methods of financing this institution. Considering the hardship and suffering caused to the public I would even go to the extent of suggesting the abolition of any one of the hospitals and

establishing one for Tuberculosis I am of the opinion that by a judicious administration of the amount given in their possession they will be able to start one. They can reduce the number of beds if they have not got sufficient funds, and spend the amount for a hospital for this purpose alone. They can raise subscriptions, and they can ask for contributions from Municipalities. They can also utilise the amounts already collected by way of contribution towards the Tuberculosis fund.

Dr. A. R. Menon (*Minister for Rural Development*): What will be the contribution from the Municipalities?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (*Cheruthuruthi*): The Municipalities, I am sure, will be quite willing to contribute. The Trichur Municipality is prepared to make a good contribution. I am told the Ernakulam Municipality has got a very large number of Tuberculosis patients and a larger number in Mattancheri Municipality. That is the information that I have received, and all these Municipalities must be in a position to contribute a substantial amount for the establishment of a hospital like that. So the paucity of funds should not stand in the way, and it is a case where the Government, although they had not been in the habit of starting subscriptions and bringing up institutions, it is such a laudable thing that they should even start and run an institution. I am sure the public will respond if they make such a demand. They can as well gather the services of one or two paid officers—Doctors either from the Ernakulam or Trichur Hospital—and put Honorary Assistant Surgeons in their place and depute them without extra funds.

Now remains the question of the selection of a site. The Hon'ble Member for Cranganur asked me why I should select Ramavarmapuram. The reasons for selecting Ramavarmapuram are: that is a place where we have plenty of buildings lying idle which cannot be used at all. There are about 4 or 5 hundred acres of land at the disposal of the Government for the construction of houses if they want, and so far as my information goes Trichur is one of the best places in Cochin State so far as the climatic condition is concerned.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon (*Cranganur*): Why don't you allow the Medical man to speak about this?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (*Cheruthuruthi*): You wait and see what the medical man has to say. The medical man and myself cannot speak at the same time.

So the Government can make a very great saving in the matter of initial expenditure. They have got plenty of rooms there, the climate is not in any way the worse than that of any other place in

Cochin State so far as this particular disease is concerned. I do not know about the extreme boundaries of the Chittur Taluk or of any other place.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon (*Chittur-Rural*): Is there not a school at Ramavarmapuram?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (*Cheruthuruthi*): It is not in this building. If they can start one in Chittur Taluk, even then I have no objection. Another point is that Trichur is a centrally situated place where the people from all parts of the State can go if there is a hospital there. I would request the Hon'ble Members to make the distinction of a Sanatorium and a hospital. I am asking for a Hospital and not for a Sanatorium. The mere question of climatic conditions is immaterial so far as I am concerned. It is not possible for our people to go to other places outside the State and get themselves treated. If they can at least get treatment in a hospital I am told a good percentage—about 50 per cent—of this disease, if they are diagnosed properly and early enough they can be treated successfully in any of the Hospitals. I therefore request under these circumstances to establish a hospital in a suitable place in the State and if the Government is unable to find funds to purchase lands and build houses I would ask them to have it at Ramavarmapuram.

Chairman: The motion as moved by the hon'ble member for Cheruthuruthi is to request the Government to start a Tuberculosis hospital. That it should be at Ramavarmapuram is only a suggestion so that if the House is to vote upon it it will be on the necessity for a Tuberculosis hospital in the State.

Mr. M. K. Devassy (*Adur*): I think there was some confusion on the issue when my hon'ble friend Mr. Ikkanda Warriar was speaking on the subject. Generally when any subject of this sort is mooted before the House it is not seldom that the issue is shifted and confused and our arguments met by technical objections by the experts concerned. I am afraid that from the way in which it was presented by the hon'ble mover probably we are giving room for some such technical objections from the Chief Medical Officer. That is why when the motion was taken up I suggested to the Chair to treat cut motion No. 6 as the substantive motion. It is to request the Government to start a Sanatorium for the Tuberculosis patients of the State at a suitable place.

Mr. K. Ayyappan (*Ezhuvas-Kanayannur*): Is it for a hospital or for a Sanatorium?

Chairman: As I made clear the motion moved by the hon'ble member for Cheruthuruthi is to request the Government to start a Tuberculosis hospital in the State.

Dr. D. Raghavendra Rao (Chief Medical Officer): I will explain the position to save the time of the Council. I am sorry I did not place this fact when I introduced my budget. The All India Tuberculosis scheme in memory of the King Emperor was started and a meeting was held here for collecting subscriptions, and all the Members who assembled there know full well what the response was for that fund, in spite of the fact that almost the whole amount was to come back to us. That amount was ear-marked for tuberculosis work in the State. Now the whole scheme has been formulated by the Central Government and an All India Commission has been instituted to enquire into these matters. The Medical Commissioner who is in charge of this work will be touring South India very soon. I have invited him to our State and he has consented to visit the State. He will be coming here as a State Guest. I feel that in about 2—3 months' time after the monsoon he will come here to study the conditions that are prevailing here and he will suggest means as regards the starting of the hospitals and sanatorium and their location. It is a thing where expert opinion is necessary to decide the question. We may all be willing to come forward with suggestions. These are matters which I think ought to be left to experts. I do not think that we can think of a better expert than the All India Tuberculosis Commission. When they come here the whole thing will be placed before them and Government intend starting a tuberculosis hospital at a place where they decide.

* **Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (Cheruthuruthi):** In the light of the statement made by the Chief Medical Officer that the question will receive sympathetic consideration I do not discuss it any further. As the matter is engaging the attention of the Government I do not wish to press this motion now.

The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.

Chairman: There are 3 motions No. 8 by Mr. V. P. Kannu Pillai, No. 12 in the name of Mr. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan, and No. 24 in the name of Mr. Koder, all relating to the Maharaja's Hospital, Palluruthi. We will take them together.

Cut Motion No. 9.

Improvements to the Maharaja's Hospital, Mattancheri.

* **Mr. V. P. Kannu Pillai (Mattancheri):** I move to reduce the allotment of Rs. 1,30,592 for establishment by Re. 1. (മട്ടാഞ്ചേരി മഹാരാജാശാലയ്ക്കുള്ള വേണ്ടതായ പരിഷ്കരണങ്ങൾ ചെയ്യേണ്ടതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ച സംശ്ലാശിപ്പാൻ). നാർ, ഈ ഉപക്ഷേപം മട്ടാഞ്ചേരിയിൽ അടുത്തു പണിതിട്ടുള്ളതായ മഹാരാജാസ് ഹോസ്പിറ്റൽ ഒരു നേരെയൊക്കുന്നതി

* Speech not corrected by the hon'ble member.